Announcement of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study to restore water quality in streams located in the Upper Rappahannock River Basin that are contaminated with bacteria.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) announce the first series of Public Meetings to introduce the Upper Rappahannock River Basin TMDL study.

PUBLIC MEETINGS:

Public Meeting #1, Wednesday, October 4, 2006
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Mt. Nebo Church
3890 Jacks Shop Road, Rochelle, VA 22738

Public Meeting #2, Wednesday, October 11, 2006
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Rappahannock County Library, Jamieson Meeting Room
4 Library Road, Washington, VA 22747

Public Meeting #3, Tuesday, October 17, 2006
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – St. Luke's Church
400 Church Street, Remington, VA 22734

Public Meeting #4, Wednesday, October 18, 2006
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Germanna Community College
2130 Germanna Highway, Locust Grove, VA 22508

MEETING DESCRIPTION: This series of public meetings are the first round of meetings to introduce this project to the public. The TMDL study addresses elevated levels of bacteria in 16 stream segments in the Upper Rappahannock River Basin.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: DEQ and DCR are working together to identify sources of bacteria contamination in stream segments in the Upper Rappahannock River Basin. The impaired stream segments are located in parts of Albemarle, Culpeper, Fauquier, Greene, Madison, Orange, Rappahannock, and Spotsylvania counties, and their location is set forth in the table below.

Impaired Stream Segments Addressed in the Upper Rappahannock TMDL					
Stream Name	**Locality**	**Impairment**	**Length (miles)**	**Upstream Limit**	**Downstream Limit**
Hughes River	Culpeper Rappahannock	Bacteria	3.68	Kilbys Run	Hazel River
Hazel River	Culpeper	Bacteria	16.67	Rt. 707 Bridge	Unnamed Tributary
Hazel River	Culpeper	Bacteria	3.32	Indian Run	Muddy Run
Rush River	Rappahannock	Bacteria	4.55	Unnamed Tributary	Big Branch
Rappahannock River	Fauquier Rappahannock	Bacteria	2.17	Jordan River	UT
Marsh Run	Fauquier	Bacteria	8.35	Craig Run	Rappahannock River
Browns Run	Fauquier	Bacteria	2.39	Unnamed Tributary	Marsh Run
Craig Run	Fauquier	Bacteria	3.61	Headwaters of Craig Run	Marsh Run
Rappahannock River	Culpeper Fauquier	Bacteria	2.02	Ruffans Run	Tinpot Run
Rappahannock River	Culpeper Fauquier	Bacteria	2.85	Unnamed Tributary	Marsh Run
Blue Run	Orange Albemarle	Bacteria	11.61	Headwaters of Blue Run	Rapidan River
Rapidan River	Culpeper Madison Orange	Bacteria	7.5	Poplar Run	Robinson River
Marsh Run	Greene Madison Orange	Bacteria	5.19	Headwaters of Marsh Run	Rapidan River
Unnamed Tributary to Rapidan River	Madison Orange	Bacteria	2.57	Headwaters of Unnamed Tributary	Rapidan River
Cedar Run	Culpeper Orange	Bacteria	5.4	Buck Run	Rapidan River
Rapidan River	Culpeper Spotsylvania	Bacteria	2.68	Wilderness Run	Middle Run

During the study, DEQ will develop a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for each of the impaired stream segments. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL allocated amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: The public comment period for this series of meetings will extend from October 4, 2006 to November 2, 2006. DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax, or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Fact Sheets on the impaired segments are available from the contact below.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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